

COLUMBUS NOW DEVELOPING INTO MUSHROOM CITY

Dozen Buildings Always in Course of Construction; War Talk Absent; Permanent Post Desired.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE TO MORNING JOURNAL)
Columbus, N. M., June 22.—Columbus, the newest and most unique town of international importance, is in a class by itself. There never was another town in the United States built under just such circumstances, nor is there another one in the world which has the characteristics of Columbus. It is a common saying here that Columbus discovered America, but that Pancho Villa discovered Columbus and it is certainly true that those citizens of this town who remained to rebuild after the disastrous raid are reaping a harvest of which they had never even dreamed. That harvest is also being gathered in large gobs by outsiders who never heard of Columbus until Villa put it on the map, but from all indications there is plenty to go around, and there is no crowding at the pie counter as yet. Columbus was literally kicked into a blaze of prosperity from which it will never entirely recede, and to many of its worthy people the whole affair is still a matter of mystery, almost a hallucination, but one that they are by no means slow to take advantage of.

Stupendous Growth.

To the casual traveler, stopping off between trains to inspect the base headquarters of the punitive expedition, Columbus is a street fair and a circus, from the first few little shops near the railroad on up through the business portion of the town, but to the owners of city property, the merchants, the laborers it is a golden dream that grows brighter every day. There are never less than one dozen buildings in course of erection, except of dwellings, and every day sees new enterprises starting and old ones enlarging. It is impossible to estimate the number of cold drink stands, hamburger stands, and small eating houses from one day to the next, for when Columbus people build they build in a hurry, and it is very much out of the ordinary to see a building being worked on for more than three or four days. It is started with a rush, finished with another rush, and the third rush sees the new proprietor installed and doing a rushing business. Many will start their stores of restaurants before the building is completed and make the business pay for itself as the work goes on. Everything is cash, of course, but there are large quantities of cash in this camp of several thousand soldiers, and it will surprise the ordinary resident of New Mexico how many tourists from the east are stopping off here on their way to California. Hotel accommodations are always at a premium, and it is the custom of the proprietor of the only hotel in town to go out around the private residences in the forenoon of each day to locate as many rooms and beds as possible to take care of his business for the coming night. A new hotel is now being erected, and it is badly needed.

Much Interest for Tourists.

There is much to interest the tourist, not only in the camp, but throughout the town, where the soldiers spend their leisure time. Two moving picture shows are busy all the time, and are usually crowded. Restaurants, cold drink stands, shooting galleries, pool halls and every other place of amusement is full of soldiers from noon on until 11 o'clock at night, when business ceases for the day. A merry-go-round is coining money and a burlesque show does a thriving business every night in the week. Two cabarets are also heavily patronized, and the larger one, which sports a dance hall in connection, has any gold mine in New Mexico beat for profits. With all the noise and excitement there is not an open saloon in town, and bootleggers get their invariably. The amount of soft drinks sold is enormous.

Real Estate Booming.

Business in rent and selling town property is more than good. New residences are being erected all the time, and those already here are in great demand. One party pays \$40 per month for a two-room furnished house, and lots in the business district are quoted and sold for as high as \$1,500 each. Two lots in the center of town, occupied by an amusement device, and absolutely without improvements, bring the owner \$60 per month.

Although this is an armed camp, and the prosperity of the town depends to a great extent upon the presence of the soldiers, this is the calmest section of the United States so far as war talk is concerned.

Some of the El Paso dailies bring in their buckets of blood daily, which, being read, are calmly discussed and almost instantly dismissed from the minds of the readers. The officers and men take an interest in the small amusements up town, attend strictly to what business or work that is laid out for them daily, discuss politics in a mild way, go to church and the band concerts which are held twice a day, and in all ways behave themselves very much as they would at home. The booming, gambling, dissipated officers which were the bane of almost every American mother with a son in the army, passed away years ago, and things of that kind are no longer tolerated.

The people of Columbus refuse absolutely to discuss the question of another raid by Mexican bandits. They are far too much interested in the rebuilding of their city and country, and the making of good money, to pay any attention to small matters of that kind. Their greatest hope and desire is that the government will see fit to make this place a permanent post, and so continue indefinitely the prosperity which they are enjoying at present.

MEXICANS TAKE ON FIRE-WATER; SHOOT MARSHAL

Coal Camp Official Wounded in Leg While Attempting to Arrest Drunken Men Shouting 'Viva Mexico'; Arrests Made.

(SPECIAL DISPATCH TO MORNING JOURNAL)
Raton, N. M., June 22.—Ed Rice, marshal at the Gardiner coal mine camp near this city, was shot in the left leg just below the knee late Wednesday evening by a Mexican who with three companions entered the saloons in the camp and after a few drinks became hilarious, shouting "Viva Mexico" and "Viva Charanza."

The marshal was notified of the actions of the men, and arrived at the saloon only to be met with a repetition of the hurrahs for Mexico. Rice ordered the men to desist and to leave the saloon, whereupon one of the Mexicans drew a gun and began firing at the marshal, who fell at the first shot.

The men made their escape from the saloon and a posse was quickly formed to pursue them. Three of the men were taken into custody some time afterwards. The fourth escaped to the hills around Gardiner. The posse is still on the trail and will in all probability run down the man before morning.

The three prisoners were brought to this city and lodged in the county jail. They are said to be only recently from old Mexico but they have thus far maintained a strict silence regarding their arrival here and their motive for the shooting. The wounded officer is resting well and no fears are expressed as to his ultimate recovery, though amputation of the limb may be necessary.

The Mexican population of this city has lately been increased by the arrival of old Mexico Mexicans and the men implicated in the affair Wednesday night are supposed to belong to a party arriving here a couple of weeks ago. Feeling is rather high against the assassin and he will be safely guarded lest the posse deal severely with him when captured.

TWO MORE INFANTRY COMPANIES MUSTERED IN

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE TO MORNING JOURNAL)
Columbus, N. M., June 22.—Two more companies of infantry were mustered into the federal service today, and with them one major and his staff. This makes five companies so far. As soon as three other companies are ready another major and staff will be mustered in, and Lieutenant Porterfield will be placed in charge. When the other four companies are filled, which will be within a very few days, the entire regimental staff, with Col. E. C. Abbott in command, will be mustered in. The companies mustered in two days were Company A of Las Cruces, Captain Dessaur in command, with Lieutenant Romero and Lieutenant Luna; and Company B of Carlsbad, Captain Dean in command, with Lieutenant West and Lieutenant Dusen. The three companies mustered in are H. of Silver City, I company, of Deming, and E company, of Santa Fe. Major B. Ruppe and staff, Lieutenant Roberts, adjutant, and Lieutenant Reddell, quartermaster and Sergeant Major Wilson were mustered in today to command the battalion now in the federal service.

Company E of the New Mexico guard is now on provost duty throughout the town of Columbus, and Captain Baca is the officer of the day. Companies I and H take turns doing out post duty over a part of the border. As other companies are mustered in they will be given duty outside of the New Mexico camp, and it is rumored here that when the entire regiment has been taken in, the companies will be given truck train guard duty, relieving the Seventeenth infantry, which has had this service for some time.

Well-spent Vacation.

East Las Vegas, N. M., June 22.—When Carnot Suller left here two weeks ago on a vacation trip to California he occasioned no comment. When he came back accompanied by a bride, however, young Suller caused considerable of a flutter. Friends of the groom immediately began extending congratulations and making Mrs. Suller feel that she was a welcome addition. The wedding occurred Saturday night in San Francisco, and was the result of a romance begun in Albuquerque a year ago, when the bride, then Miss Helen Whitman, was residing in that city and the groom was attending the Albuquerque Business college. Mr. Suller is employed by the People's Bank and Trust company.

Accused of Forging Orders.

East Las Vegas, N. M., June 22.—Charged with forging orders upon banknote brothers for money and merchandise, Jose Angel Martinez has been bound over to the San Miguel county grand jury. Martinez' bond was fixed at \$500. He is said to have signed the name of Ramon Garcia to the orders and cashed them. Martinez lives in the Cherry valley, below Rosmaroville.

A Circuitous Route.

Rotterdam, Netherlands, May 29.—A week's voyage round Scotland and England is a strange way of getting from Rotterdam to London, yet this is one of the latest indirect consequences of the war. Rather than face the dangers of the mine field, the Rotterdam Lloyd has decided in future to send all its East Indian mailships due to call at London by this circuitous route, instead of by the direct eight hours passage to the Thames.



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